

Office of the Sheriff: Fact Sheet

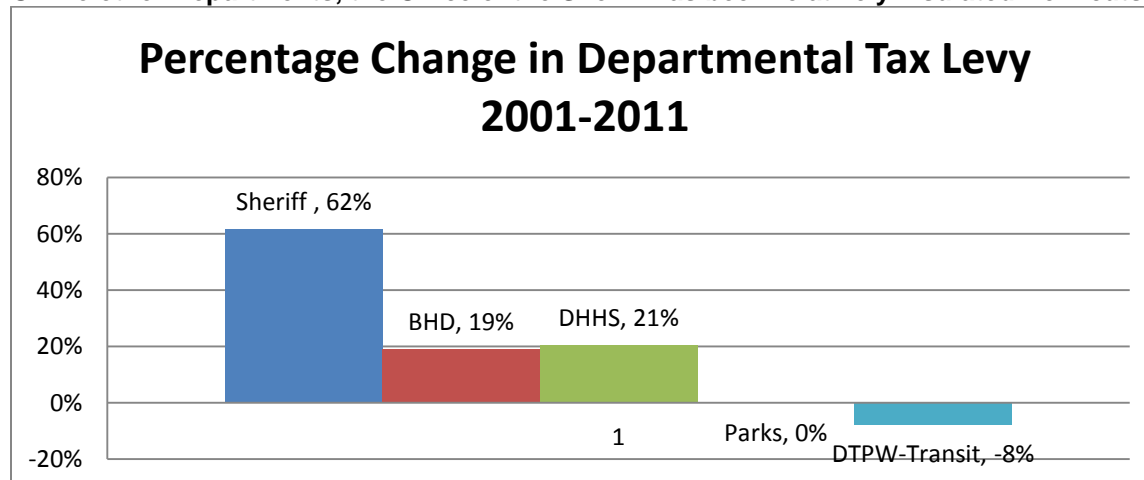
County Executive Abele's proposed 2012 budget provides the necessary resources to fulfill the Office of the Sheriff's core duties and protect public safety, while introducing changes to improve cost-effectiveness. In this difficult climate -with the County facing a deficit that constitutes 20% of its annual tax levy, County Executive Abele is confident that the Sheriff shares his commitment to responsibly steward tax dollars while protecting public safety.

As with other departments in the County Executive's budget proposal, the proposed changes in the Office of the Sheriff aim to achieve efficient provision of those vital services most closely linked with public safety. While the way some services are provided will change, the number of hours funded to provide vital services is not declining. The proposed budget does not reduce the number of hours available for park patrols, court security or jail safety. Rather, this budget builds on a number of the Sheriff's own initiatives, including the transition to correctional officers. Similarly, the transition to hourly park patrol positions replicates the Office of the Sheriff's transition to correctional officers and to hourly Bailiffs for shift relief. In addition, the proposed budget aims to eliminate services that are duplicative of those successfully provided by the municipalities.

Public safety is not compromised by these proposals.

- Unlike other counties in the State, Milwaukee County is a fully incorporated County. As a result, the Office of the Sheriff is not the primary law enforcement agency anywhere in the County. Rather, the municipalities each have expert and respected police forces, all of which (except River Hills) reported more crimes in 2009 than the 19 crimes reported by the Office of the Sheriff (see Table 1). As a result, the Office of the Sheriff's requested levy for police services constitute less than 10% of its total requested levy. The Office of the Sheriff's statutory core duties are: (1) jails; (2) providing Bailiffs to the courts; (3) serving legal process; (4) highways, which are patrolled by the State in every other County and where citations have decreased 35% since 2001; and, (5) waterways.
- Crime in Milwaukee is declining.
- The County Executive takes a comprehensive approach to public safety, dedicating funding to and participating in evidence-based preventative services aimed at protecting public safety and reducing costs, including: (1) the Community Justice Council, a collaborative group that includes the Sheriff, City, and State, and which works towards a fair, effective justice system that enhances public safety and quality of life; and (2) pre-trial services, including investing in Universal Screening, which will reduce the jail population and recidivism by enhancing information-based prosecution and pre-trial service diversion programming. Public safety accounts for 49% of the proposed 2012 tax levy.
- According to UCR data, in Milwaukee County (including municipalities' PDs and the Office of the Sheriff) there are currently 30% more law enforcement employees than comparable Counties.
- The total number of hours will not be reduced for correctional functions, Bailiffs or parks patrol.

Unlike other Departments, the Office of the Sheriff has been relatively insulated from cuts.



- The Office of the Sheriff is the biggest user of the levy, representing about 1/3 of the tax levy in the entire County budget. In addition, the Office of the Sheriff has been relatively insulated from cuts in the past; the levy for the Office of the Sheriff increased 62% between 2001 and 2011.
- Between 2008 and the 2012 budget request, adult detention population declined over 12%, while the levy for the same services decline only 4%.

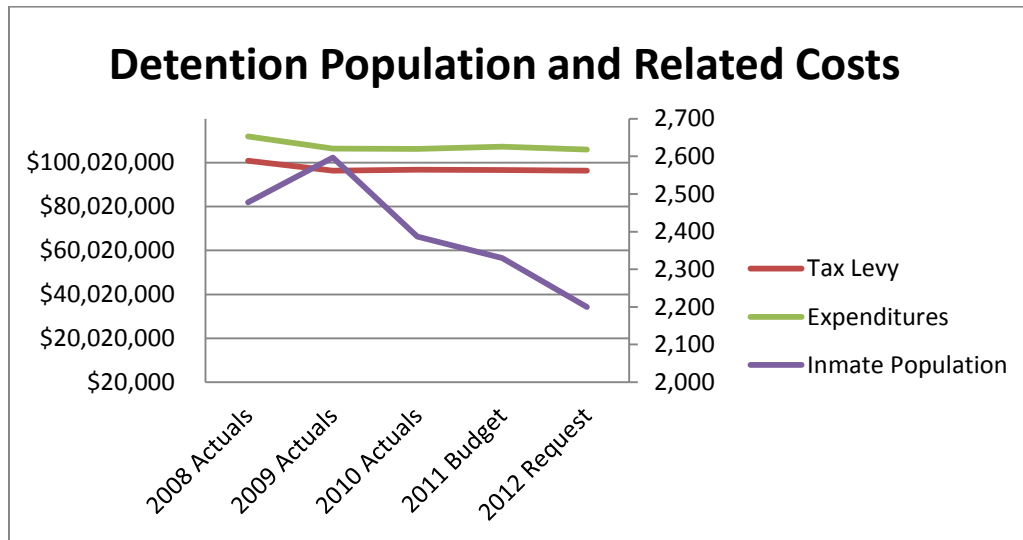
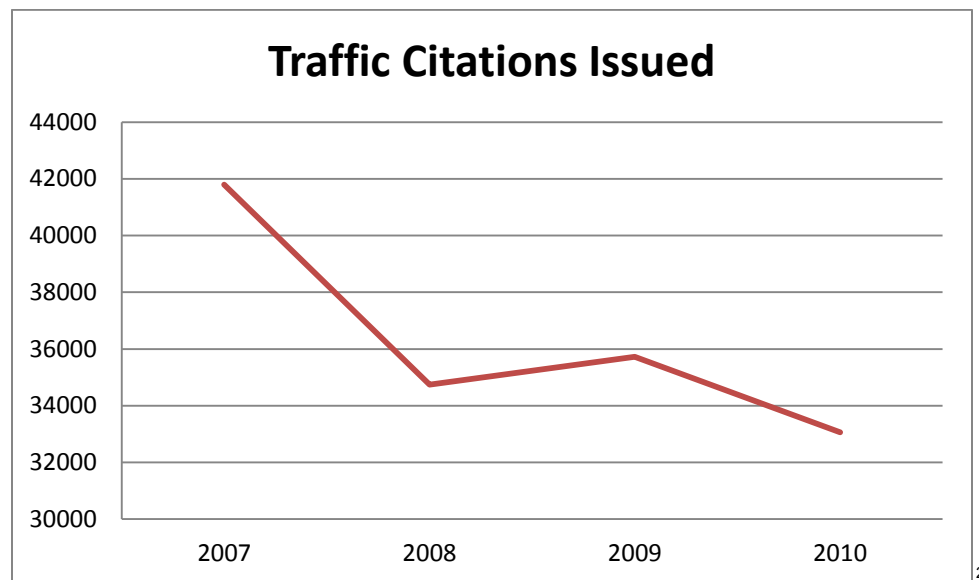


Table 1: Offenses Known to Law Enforcement¹

Municipality/ County	Reported Crimes 2009	Percentage of County Crime 2009	Reported Crimes 2010	Percentage of County Crime 2009
Milwaukee PD	41,375	80.3%	38,336	74.4%
West Allis	3,288	6.4%	3,211	6.2%
Wauwatosa	1,908	3.7%	1,916	3.7%
Greenfield	1,344	2.6%	1,386	2.7%
Oak Creek	1,149	2.2%	1,167	2.3%
Milwaukee County Office of the Sheriff	19	0.0%	38	0.1%
Bayside	17	0.0%	28	0.1%
UW Milwaukee	242	0.5%	271	0.5%

Traffic Citations Issued



¹ These data can be found at;

http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2009/data/table_10_wi.html; <http://oja.wi.gov/category.asp?linkcatid=1324&linkid=709&locid=97>

² Based on work volume statistics submitted in the Budget request submitted by the Office of the Sheriff.